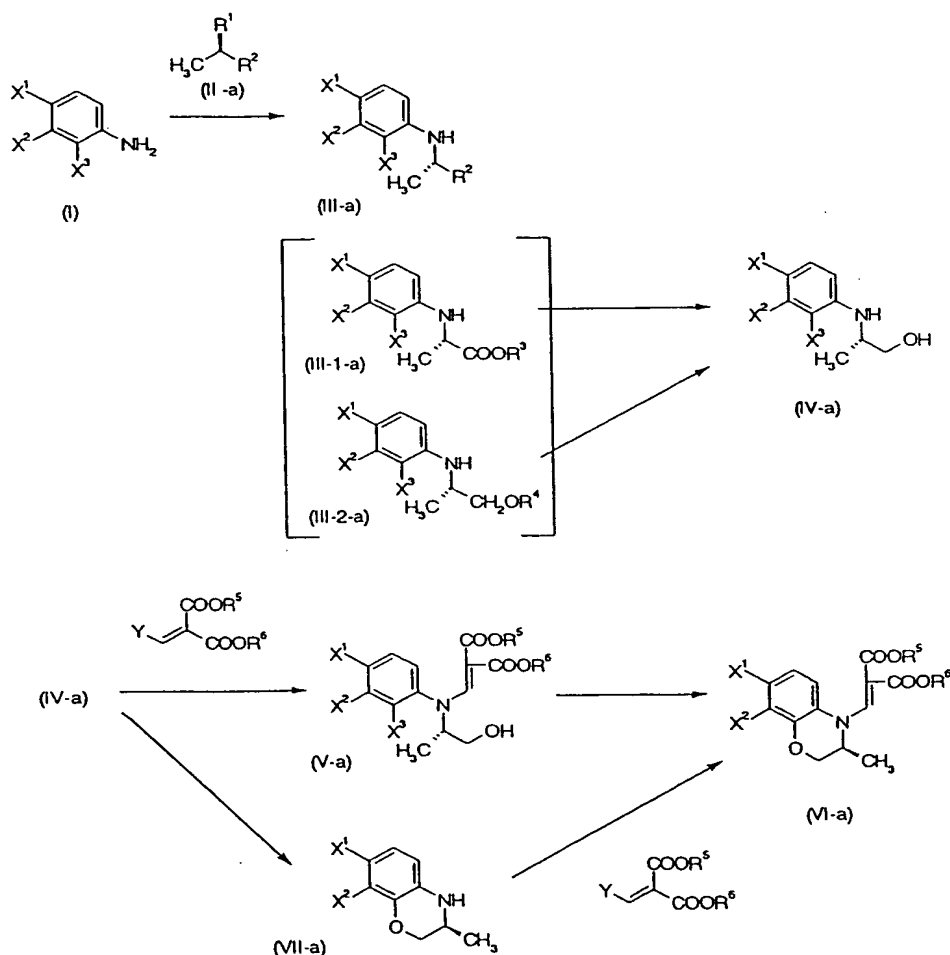


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure and replace it with the following Abstract of the Disclosure.

~~A processes which is industrially advantageous in~~ Processes for producing antibacterial agents[[.]] ~~An industrially advantageous process for producing an and intermediates useful in producing antibactrial~~ antibacterial agents is are provided by and include producing compound (VI-a) in accordance with the following reaction schema, as well as production intermediates thereof.



~~A process for producing the compound represented by the above formulae and production intermediates thereof.~~